

## UNITED STATES ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY REGION V 230 SOUTH DEARBORN ST. CHICAGO, ILLINOIS 80604

EPA Region 5 Records Ctr. 355868

REPLY TO ATTENTION OF:

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Dan Goodwin, Manager
Division of Air Pollution
Illinois Environmental Protection
Agency
2200 Churchill Road
Springfield, Illinois 62706

Dear Mr. Goodwin:

Recently we received a letter from a teacher at Carver Area High School regarding health problems that she and other teachers have at that school. The primary complaints were headaches, pressure in the upper respiratory system and neurological effects. Two teachers from the school were examined at the Cook County Hospital Occupational Medicine Clinic. Dr. Steve Hessl, who heads the clinic, believes that their health complaints are legitimate and may be environmental in origin.

Since the teacher's health problems occur while she is in the area of the school and not while she is at home, it seems likely that the source of the airborne irritant is near the school. Carver Area High School is located at 13100 South Doty Avenue, Chicago, Illinois. The Sherwin-Williams Company, located at 11541 Champlain Avenue, Chicago, appears to be a likely source of air pollution which could have the effects complained of. Do you have information in your files regarding the nature and quantity of air emissions from Sherwin-Williams? If so, please provide me with this information. I have enclosed a copy of the list of chemicals that Sherwin-Williams reported producing in the Chemical Inventory under the Toxic Substances Control Act for your information.

The possibility of other sites, which could be pollution sources, is also being checked.

Any information that you could provide would be sincerely appreciated. If you have any questions about this request, please feel free to contact me at (312) 886-6005.

Sincerely yours,

Carolyn S. Hesse

Toxic Materials Branch

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Enclosure

cc: Sy Levine Illinois EPA (Maywood)

> Tom Bierma Illinois EPA (Springfield)

> Bharat Mathur, Manager Air Permits Section Illinois EPA (Springfield)

Chris Wiant Illinois Department of Public Health